

## ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Hong Kong Bureau



FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

June 1988

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED		
1. AC/Ops	2 AUG 1988		JOS PR	
2.				
3. C/E&PS		9/3	L	
4. DD/FBIS		3 Aug	B	
5. D/FBIS			R	
6.				
7. <del>PO/RA</del>				
8. SA/CD		4 Aug 88	CD	
9.				
10. C/AS			RAA	
11. <u>30</u> C/B&F/AS			M/B	
12. PO/RA				
13.				
14. C/AG		9/8	me	
15. Exec. Reg.				

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE  
HONG KONG BUREAU

FBIS--3610-88  
7 July 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service  
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group  
FROM : [ ] Chief, Hong Kong Bureau  
SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Hong Kong Bureau--June 1988

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I. GENERAL

[ ] deputy chief FED, headed a LEC visit to the Bureau to study and review Hong Kong's LAN software and hardware. The team found the Bureau's LAN in relatively good condition, although a significant number of disk errors, both read and write errors because of 70-80 bad block locations, were found in the primary and backup file servers. To correct this problem, the LEC team performed a "clean up" using COMPSERVE software. The System Administrator was trained in running the COMPSERVE program and will give the file servers a major cleaning once a year.

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The Bureau's opinion of modernization remains very positive. The Editorial, Monitorial, and Communications staffs hold the system in high regard, and they are looking forward to continued improvements, particularly the automation of the incoming file as outlined by the LEC team.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. In its first month of covering Beijing CEI Database in English, the Bureau filed 37,770 words of publishable copy. During June, CEI updated its database on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Starting on 1 July, CEI began updating its database Monday through Friday, and the Bureau expects its file from this service to grow. The initial response from Headquarters to the

file has been good.

2. After 6 months of negotiations, the Bureau finally signed a contract with the Chinese news agency Hong Kong ZHONGGUO TONGXUN SHE. This agency previously had piggy-backed with Beijing ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE, but in January it assumed the role of a separate service, requiring a separate contract. The contract wording is much the same as the Bureau's contract with Beijing XINHUA in English, and it allows distribution to BBC and other lateral consumers.

3. Student demonstrations in Beijing early in the month following the murder of a Beijing University student required the Bureau to remain open late the nights of the 3d and 9th to process and file unique materials from Hong Kong ZHONGGUO TONGXUN SHE and Beijing ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE. The Bureau has found that these press agencies often report on internal developments hours or sometimes even a day or more before other PRC media sources.

4. As previously announced, the PRC theoretical journal HONGQI ceased publication at the end of June and its replacement, QIUSHI, started publication on 1 July. The Bureau, through the Beijing contractor, the Consulate PPU, and local contacts, is making its best efforts to obtain the first issue quickly so it can be translated cover to cover expeditiously and filed to Headquarters. According to the last issue of HONGQI, all of its previous customers are to receive the continued subscription to QIUSHI.

5. The Philippine unit staffed an extra shift on Sunday, the 12th, to cover President Aquino's Independence Day speech as well as to report on any untoward activities. Marcos loyalists had claimed he would return to the Philippines that day. The Bureau filed its first VSL's from Philippine television sources. However, the contractor's reception of the Metro Manila television stations is poor to fair, which will require some antenna improvements.

#### B. Technical

1. It has been determined with certainty that the new microwave path from the Mount Butler antenna field will be blocked by new construction around early February. The Bureau will now approach the Hong Kong Telephone Company with this problem and recommend that the existing T1 cable from Mount

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Butler to the Wan Chai exchange be replaced with fiber optics because of the T1's poor performance during bad weather. If this proposal is approved, the replacement work could be completed in 9 months. The Bureau will also continue to negotiate with C&W regarding the possibility of leasing another T1 line to serve as a backup circuit.

2. Some of the teletypists have been trained to use the PROCOMM and Telebit modems and the remainder of them as well as the editors will be trained to use this software and equipment. After local on-line training, one of the modems will be returned to Okinawa Bureau and an IDD test will be conducted with either Okinawa or Bangkok Bureaus.

3. Technician [ ] developed software using DBASEIII so the slot editor can more easily manipulate the Chinese newspaper and press agency processing log.

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### III. ADMINISTRATION

1. Chinese Monitor [ ] worked his last day at the Bureau on the 17th. He is emigrating to Australia.

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2. Associate Editor [ ] resignation from the Bureau took effect on 1 July. [ ] a citizen of Australia, will be doing some traveling in Europe before returning home.

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3. Chinese Monitor [ ] EOD'ed on the 9th.

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4. Processing for Chinese monitorial candidates is continuing locally. The Bureau remains two short of its Chinese monitor T/O. One applicant is finishing up local processing and should be on board in a few weeks. The recruitment attempt in June to fill the other vacancy failed to turn up any promising prospects among the two dozen or so applicants. The Bureau will again advertise the vacancy in September following the vacation season.

5. [ ] replacing [ ] as an associate editor, EOD'ed on the 20th.

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6. The Bureau purchased a new Mazda station wagon, replacing the old wagon.

7. A 2.39-percent pay raise, retroactive to 31 January, was approved by Headquarters in June.

8. The Bureau received approval for position upgrades resulting from FBA. The System Administrator will be an FBN-9 and the Deputy SA and the Communications Chief will be FBN-7's.

#### IV. VISITS

1. Former FBIS Director [ ] to the Bureau on the 7th for a briefing and familiarization. It was Don's first visit to a computerized bureau. ✓

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2. [ ] and two members of the LEC team arrived on the 7th and the third LEC representative arrived on the 10th. Jeff and two members of the LEC team departed on the 16th, and the third LEC member left on the 18th following additional work at the Bureau.

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3. A LEC software technician TDY'ed at the Bureau 27 June-1 July.

4. Bangkok Bureau Chief [ ] TDY'ed at the Bureau on the 27th for a briefing and familiarization.

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5. [ ] the chief of NEAD's China Political/Military section, TDYed at the Bureau 24-25 June.

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6. Bangkok Bureau Editor [ ] visited the Bureau on the 22d during private travel.

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#### V. COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

The Bureau held an awards ceremony on the 9th to congratulate Senior Editor [ ] on receiving a \$500.00 award for her work on the Wire Services Staff during the transition from Rosslyn to Reston and the concurrent transition from Midas to AFS.

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[ ]  
Chief, Hong Kong Bureau

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